

Polhemus listed Sinaloa, Sonora and Colima in the original description, so the occurrence in Nayarit is not surprising. The species will undoubtedly eventually be found in Jalisco as well.

*Nerthra usingeri* Todd, 1954. Pan-Pac. Entomol. 30(2):116. A single ♂ collected on the Estacion de Biologia, Chamela, Jalisco, México, 5 Dec 1976, H. Brailovsky. This is first Mexican record for the species. It was previously known only from California.

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#### NOTE

#### A "NOCTURNAL" FORAGING RECORD FOR *DIOGMITES NEOTERNATUS* (DIPTERA: ASILIDAE)

Robber flies are generally considered to be diurnal insects usually being active between about 9:30 AM and 7:30 PM. However, some species, in particular those in the desert, have been observed to mate during the night (Lehr, 1959, Proc. Fourth Congr. All Union Entomol. Soc. 1:76-78; Lehr, 1964, Proc. Sci. Res. Inst. Protection Plants, Alma-Ata. 8:213-244 (In Russian); Newkirk, 1963, Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 56:234-236). In addition, Rau (1938, Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 31:540-556) reported *Deromyia ternatus* Loew foraging and capturing house-flies on a screen-door of a city shop at dusk. Presumably, this species was using the light from the shop to see and capture its prey. Since such behavior among Asilidae is infrequently reported, we would like to report the following similar "nocturnal" foraging behavior for *Diogmites neoternatus* (Bromley). It is also of interest to note that to our knowledge, this is the first published record of this asilid occurring in Virginia.

While collecting insects in the vicinity of Fairfax, Virginia, we frequently found *D. neoternatus* in open weedy fields, on the edges of forested areas and less frequently in the forests. We also found numerous specimens of this species trapped in the staircase of our three-story apartment building. *Diogmites neoternatus* have been found by other investigators in open areas of dry fields (Scarborough, 1974, Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 76:385-396), in clover fields (Artigas, 1966, Ohio J. Sci. 66:401-421), and moist bushy woods or fields (Bromley, 1931, Ohio State Univ. Mus., Sci. Bull. 1:3-19; Bromley, 1950, Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 43:227-239).

On 24 July 1976 at 12:15 PM, we observed several *D. neoternatus* resting on the walls of the aforementioned well-lit apartment building staircase,

as well as flying about the staircase (according to Bromley, 1950, *Ibid.*, *D. neoternatus* "has been taken at light," which may mean that this species was collected at night near a light). Much to our surprise one male captured a prey (Diptera: Xylomyidae, *Xylomya* sp.) in flight by the light of the staircase. The male then flew around with his fore legs held above his thorax in a posture similar to that exhibited by male *D. angustipennis* Loew during courtship (see Lavigne and Holland, 1969, Univ. Wyo. Agr. Exp. Stn. Sci. Monogr., No. 18, 61 pp.), held the prey between his middle and hind legs and tried to "grab" onto the walls. He eventually held onto a crevice in the wall with his left fore leg, inserted his hypopharynx in the prey and rested on the wall with all six legs. As the male fed he frequently held onto the wall with one of his fore legs, manipulated the prey with the rest of his legs and reinserted his hypopharynx. The male would then either hang onto the wall for a short period of time with one fore leg or immediately grab onto the wall with all six legs. Similar methods of manipulating prey have been observed for other species of *Diogmites* (Bromley, 1946, Bull. Com. Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. No. 69, 48 pp.; Lavigne and Holland, *Ibid.*). We continued to watch the male until we disturbed him and he dropped the prey in flight. In addition to feeding on a dipteran, as reported here, Artigas (*Ibid.*) states that *D. neoternatus* feeds principally on bees and wasps, and occasionally flies and "bugs."

We would like to thank R. J. Lavigne (Entomology Section, University of Wyoming, Laramie) for his confirmation of the identity of *Diogmites neoternatus*.

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